

TROPICAL CYCLONE 02B

Tropical Cyclone 02B began as an area of disturbed weather in the western Bay of Bengal and was first mentioned on the 19 September Significant Tropical Weather Advisory (ABIO). The disturbance continued to improve in organization through 21 September remaining quasi-stationary in the monsoon trough. After 21 September, the system began to move slowly northwestward until 24 September. On 24 September, the first warning was issued. At about this time, a developing mid-latitude trough northwest of the cyclone shifted the steering flow to southwesterly and by 26 September, the forward motion had increased from 6 kt (11 km/hr) to 14 kt (26 km/hr). Tropical Cyclone 02B increased in intensity as it tracked along the eastern coast of India.

The system reached a peak intensity of 65 kt (33 m/s) approximately 12 hours before making landfall in Bangladesh on 27 September. Forty-seven people were reported killed and more than 1000 injured as heavy surf, rain and wind gusts of 80 kt (40 m/s) swept the coastline. Tropical Cyclone 02B moved further inland where it eventually dissipated.

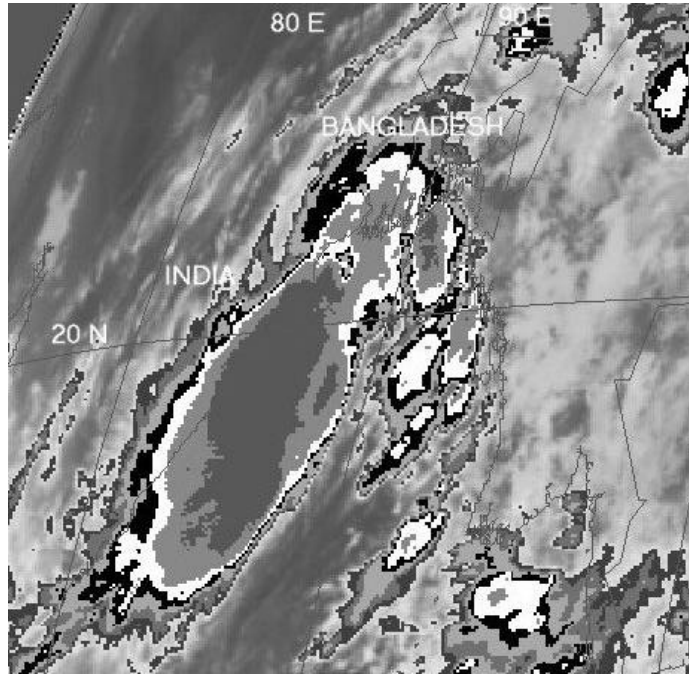


Figure 3-02B-1 Tropical Cyclone 02B as it skirts the eastern coast of India (242225Z September enhanced infrared GMS imagery).

